



USDA SERVICE CENTER NEWS

KINGS COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY

TELEPHONE (559) 585-8732 FAX (559) 584-8715

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NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP) DEADLINES

Crops eligible for coverage are those for which crop insurance is not available, including fruits and vegetables, aquaculture, forage crops and rangeland. NAP coverage requires a service fee of \$100 per crop, per producer per county. Out-of-pocket expenses for any producer will not exceed \$900, even if production occurs in more than three counties. Service fees may be waived for eligible limited resource producers.

When your crop or planting is affected by a natural disaster, you must notify your local FSA office by completing a notice of loss within 15 calendar days of the: 1) Natural disaster occurrence, 2) final planting date, if your planting was prevented by a natural disaster, 3) date damage to the crop or loss of production becomes apparent to you, or 4) the normal harvest date. Failure to timely notify this office, may result in the loss of benefits.

Sales closing dates for 2008 vary by crop.

August 1, 2007	Fall planted seed crops
September 1, 2007	Fall planted Garbanzo Beans, forage crops, value loss and controlled environment crops
October 1, 2007	Fall planted Garlic
December 1, 2007	Onions & Honey
December 15, 2007	Uninsurable Almonds, Apricots, Asparagus, Cherries, Grapes, Kiwi fruit, Mint, Nectarines, Olives, Peaches, Pears, Persimmons, Pistachios, Plums, Pomegranate, Strawberries and Walnuts
March 1, 2008	All other uninsurable annuals
January 31, 2008	Uninsurable Apples

The coverage period for NAP may vary depending on whether you grow annual, perennial or value loss crops. The coverage period for **annual crops** begins the later of; 30 days after you apply for coverage or the date your crop is planted, not to exceed the final planting date. The coverage period for **perennial crops** always begins 30 calendar days after the application closing date.

DIRECT AND COUNTER CYCLICAL PROGRAM

Final deadline for 2007 Program is September 28, 2007 to file applications at the FSA office

Signup for the 2007 Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) ended August 3, 2007. Farms not enrolled or missing signatures (for those receiving shares) by August 3, 2007 are considered late filed and will be assessed a late-filed signup fee of \$100 per farm. No signups or signatures for the 2007 year will be accepted after September 28, 2007 at the FSA office. Producers may signup online through September 30, 2007. Producers are reminded that signups are taken annually for this program. Even if you signed up in 2006, you must sign a new contract for 2007. To be eligible for payments under DCP, owners, tenants, landlords, operators and sharecroppers must: 1) Share in the risk of producing a crop on base acres on a farm enrolled in DCP; 2) annually report the use of the farm's cropland acreage; 3) comply with conservation and wetland protection requirements on all of their land; 4) comply with planting flexibility requirements; 5) use the base acres for agricultural or related activities; 6) protect all base acres from erosion, as well as providing weed control and 7) meet all other eligibility requirements.



ACREAGE REPORTING

In order to receive direct and counter-cyclical payments under the current Farm Bill, all crops on all farms must be reported each year to your local FSA office. This also includes ALL fallow land, permanent crops, commodity crops, pasture, etc. If acreage reports are not made, direct and counter-cyclical payments will not be issued. The deadline for fall-seeded crops was April 30 and the deadline for spring-seeded crops was July 15. Any acreage reports filed after July 15 will be considered late filed and a fee will be charged for verification of the report. Currently, we are in the process of loading all timely filed manual acreage reports in the GIS computer system. Once completed, we will mail producers the automated version. All producers should review the acreage report for accuracy and notify this office of any changes immediately. If everything is accurate, please sign and return to this office as soon as possible. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

PAYMENT LIMITATION REMINDER



Most programs administered by the Farm Service Agency are subject to payment limitation provisions. This is a reminder to please check to make sure that you are following the operating plan (CCC-502) that you submitted and which was used as a basis of approval for your farming operation. Any deviation from this plan as submitted may result in the repayment of any monies earned, as well as other potential penalties. Each year, several farming operations are randomly selected by the California State FSA Office for review. Those operations are asked to provide documentation which supports that the farm is operating as was stated in the plan submitted prior to entity approval.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO IF A SEVERE NATURAL DISASTER HITS YOUR FARMING ENTERPRISE?

Whether it be crops or livestock, Farm Service Agency suggests you do the following immediately after damage occurs:

- 1) Contact your Crop Insurance Agent, if insured;
- 2) Contact your Agricultural Commissioner's office to report the damage;
- 3) Contact the Farm Service Agency and file form CCC-576, Notice of Loss **prior to destroying the crop**;
- 4) Take Pictures of the damage & document the event with rainfall or temperature readings.

It is extremely important to inform the FSA office and Ag Commissioner when your crops/livestock are affected by severe weather. Reports after the crop is harvested may not be accepted. Although there may not be any immediate assistance available, the notice of loss to the above parties may trigger the request for such assistance.

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